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Professor Mason's illness dated from 1898, when he was stricken with hemiplegia. From this, he was slowly but steadily recovering until the summer of this year, when his health commenced again to fail. As late as the 17th of October, he was still attending to his duties in the National Museum, but from that day on he rapidly failed, until the fatal termination.

His name, cherished by all those who knew him personally, will range in the history of anthropology side by side with those of Powell, Brinton and Gallatin. ALĚŠ HRDLÍČKA

*THE CONVOCATION WEEK MEETING OF
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE
AND AFFILIATED SOCIETIES*

THE preliminary announcement of the sixtieth meeting of the American Association to be held in Baltimore from December 28, 1908, to January 2, 1909, has now been issued by the permanent secretary. The first general session of the association will be held at 10 o'clock on the morning of December 28, in McCoy Hall, the Johns Hopkins University. The meeting will be called to order by the retiring president, Professor E. L. Nichols, who will introduce the president of the meeting, Professor T. C. Chamberlin. Addresses of welcome will be delivered by Dr. Ira Remsen, president of the Johns Hopkins University, and by Dr. Wm. H. Welch, chairman of the local committee for the meeting, and President Chamberlin will reply.

Most of the sections of the association and of the affiliated societies will meet at the Johns Hopkins University or the Baltimore City College or Baltimore Medical College adjoining, or else at the Johns Hopkins Medical School. The School Board of Baltimore City, the Baltimore Woman's College, the Bryn Mawr Preparatory School and the Maryland Academy of Sciences have placed other rooms at the disposal of the committee.

At 8 o'clock P.M., on Monday, the retiring president will give his address in McCoy Hall. At the close of the address a reception will be tendered by President Remsen and the board of trustees of the Johns Hopkins University.

On the afternoons of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the addresses of the vice-presidents will be given. They are as follows: E. O. Lovett, Princeton; D. C. Miller, Cleveland; H. P. Talbot, Boston; O. H. Landreth, Schenectady; J. P. Iddings, Chicago; E. B. Wilson, New York; C. E. Bessey, Lincoln; Franz Boas, New York; J. F. Crowell, New York; Ludvig Hektoen, Chicago; Elmer Ellsworth Brown, Washington.

On these and the following days the sections and societies will hold their regular sessions. It is expected that there will be joint meetings when the same subjects are covered, and that some meetings will be arranged for of general interest to all members of the association. No definite arrangements are announced for the general evening functions after Monday night. Dinners and meetings of special societies and groups, smokers and informal meetings, may be arranged.

On Thursday, December 31, a meeting of the American Health League will be called in conjunction with Section I, and a symposium on "Public Health" will be held.

On Friday, January 1, there will be held a celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and of the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the "Origin of Species." This will consist of a morning and afternoon program of addresses by prominent naturalists, to be followed by a dinner at night at which further addresses will be made.

A railroad rate of one fare and three fifths for the round trip, on the certificate plan, has been granted by the Trunk Line Association, the New England Passenger Association (excepting via N. Y., Ont. and W. Ry., the Eastern Steamship Company and the Bangor and Aroostook R. R.), the Eastern Canadian Passenger Association and the Central Passenger Association. The Western Association has on sale revised one-way fares in effect to Chicago, Peoria and St. Louis, with the understanding that persons can repurchase from these points and take advantage of any reduced fares that may be authorized therefrom. The fares to Chicago, Peoria and St. Louis

from a large part of the Western Passenger Association territory are now on the basis of two cents per mile; hence, with the reduced fares from the three cities named, the net rate amounts practically to a rate of a fare and three fifths for the round trip. A rate of a fare and three fifths has also been requested from the Southern and the Trans-Continental Passenger Associations, but decisions have not yet been received.

The Belvidere Hotel will be the hotel headquarters of the association. The Stafford and the Rennert and probably other hotels will be the headquarters for some of the affiliated societies.

There will be printed in *SCIENCE* next week a list of the societies that will meet during convocation week. In addition to those printed previously, the following notices in regard to these societies have been received:

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ZOOLOGISTS

THE annual meeting of the Eastern Branch of the American Society of Zoologists will be held at Baltimore, Md., December 29, 30 and 31, 1908. By constitutional provision of the American Society of Zoologists this is also the regular triennial meeting of the Eastern and Central Branches, and therefore, since the joint meeting falls this time in the territory of the Eastern Branch, that branch will act as host. Members of the society are urged to send the titles of their papers to the secretary of the Eastern Branch not later than December 5, so that a preliminary program may be issued about December 10. It will be necessary to place the papers received after that date at the end of the list. Nominations for membership, accompanied by full statements of the qualifications of the candidates must be in the hands of the secretaries before December 1, in order that the list may be submitted to the executive committee of each branch before the meeting. Nominations for membership in the Central Branch should be sent to Professor Thomas G. Lee, Acting Secretary, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn. Nominations for membership

in the Eastern Branch should be sent to the undersigned.

LORANDE LOSS WOODRUFF,

Secretary, Eastern Branch

YALE UNIVERSITY,

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGISTS

THE next meeting of the American Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists will be held at Baltimore, December 28 to 30. The winter meetings of the Geological Society of America and the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at the same time and place. The meeting in conjunction with these societies is especially important, as the question of the future affiliation or relationship of the vertebrate paleontologists will be brought before the society by the committee appointed last year, and decided at this meeting. In addition to other advantages, members of the American Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists will have convenient opportunity to visit Washington either before or after the meetings and to examine the great collections of the National Museum.

W. D. MATTHEW,

Secretary-Treasurer

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
NEW YORK

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE twenty-first annual meeting of the Geological Society of America will be held in the rooms of the geological department of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, December 29-31, inclusive, in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The regular circular of information will be issued shortly. Fellows intending to offer papers for reading are urged to send to the secretary without delay for the regulation blanks for the entry of title. Arrangements have been made in conjunction with Section E of the association for a symposium on correlation which will add greatly to the interest and value of the meeting.

E. O. HOVEY,

Secretary

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
NEW YORK

AMERICAN PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE American Physiological Society will hold its twenty-first annual meeting in Baltimore during convocation week, beginning December 29, 1908. Joint sessions will be held with the American Society of Biological Chemists and with Section K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine—of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The place of meeting will be the Lecture Hall, second floor, of the Johns Hopkins Medical School Building (Washington and East Monument Streets).

REID HUNT,
Secretary

25TH AND E STS., N. W.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE AMERICAN NATURE-STUDY SOCIETY

ONE session of the meeting at Baltimore will be devoted to a discussion of "The Relation of Nature-study and Elementary Agriculture in Rural Schools," and one session will be devoted to "Nature-study in its Relation to High School Biology." It is expected that a third session will be made up of general papers. The dates of these sessions will be arranged, as far as possible, to avoid conflict with other meetings.

THE HAYDEN MEMORIAL MEDAL

THE Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has conferred the Hayden memorial gold medal for 1908 on John Mason Clarke, the state geologist of New York, in recognition of his distinguished services to geological science.

The academy accepted in 1888 from Mrs. Emma W. Hayden an endowment of a memorial to her husband, Dr. Ferdinand V. Hayden, who was for several years director of the Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, remaining one of the four principal geologists of the United States Geological Survey from its organization, in 1879, until his death. Provision was at first made to confer a bronze medal and the balance of interest on the fund annually as a recognition of the best publication, exploration,

discovery or research in the sciences of geology and paleontology.

The bronze medal was awarded annually until 1899, when the deed of trust was modified so as to provide for the conferring of a gold medal once every three years.

The recipients of the award have been as follows:

- 1890. James Hall, state geologist of New York.
- 1891. Edward D. Cope, distinguished paleontologist.
- 1892. Edward Suess, of Vienna, author of "Das Antlitz der Erde."
- 1893. Thomas Huxley, the distinguished biologist and paleontologist.
- 1894. Gabriel Auguste Daubr e, of the Institute of France.
- 1895. Karl A. von Zittel, of Munich, author of the monumental "Handbuch der Paleontologie."
- 1896. Giovanni Capellini, of Bologna, president of the Royal Geological Survey of Italy.
- 1897. A. Karpinski, of St. Petersburg, director of the Geological Survey of Russia.
- 1898. Otto Martin Torell, chief of the Geological Survey of Sweden.
- 1899. Gilles J. G. Denalque, secretary of the Geological Society of Belgium.
- 1902. Archibald Geikie, director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain.
- 1905. Charles Doolittle Walcott, director of the United States Geological Survey, and now secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

In the opinion of the committee on the award Mr. Clarke's contributions to geology, especially his "Early Devonian History of New York and Eastern North America," rank him with the others who have received the recognition.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR W. W. CAMPBELL, director of the Lick Observatory, has been appointed lecturer for next year on the Silliman foundation at Yale University.

ON the occasion of King Edward's birthday, the honor of knighthood was conferred on Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson, Hunterian professor at the Royal College of Surgeons; Dr. Thomas Oliver, professor of physiology at